



# *Milwaukee County*

## Supervisor Eyon Biddle, Sr., 10<sup>th</sup> District

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### **SUP. BIDDLE PARTICIPATES IN NATIONAL DAY OF ACTION**

**Milwaukee, WI** – Milwaukee County Supervisor Eyon Biddle, Sr., released the following statement after participating in the National Day of Action in Milwaukee on Thursday:

“People who are familiar with me know that I am champion for everyday people. I stand with and fight for my community. Like many other Americans, I am fed up with the way the people’s voices are being drowned out by corporate lobbyists and powerful special interests. For those who say we are in a state of emergency, I absolutely agree.

“Our own City of Milwaukee has been in a state of emergency for many years. Milwaukee is the 9th poorest city in the nation. Milwaukee is one of the worst cities for minority-owned businesses, entrepreneurship and median household incomes. Milwaukee’s abysmal infant mortality rate is one of the highest in the world. Milwaukee has failing educational outcomes for students of color. We are behind the rest of the country in reading and math achievement. Approximately 44% of Milwaukee’s African-American and 35% for Hispanics are living in poverty. Of these, half are children of color. African-American male joblessness is at 50%. Foreclosures, blight, crumbling infrastructure, apathy, hopelessness, indifference and corruption have been allowed to fester.

“We, the people, have been asleep at the wheel. It’s time to wake up. Milwaukee is not working for people of color, and this city will not realize its full potential and greatness until the quality of life for people of color is enhanced. We cannot allow special interests like the Greater Milwaukee Committee, Bradley Foundation, and Metropolitan Milwaukee Association of Commerce to be the only ones to dictate and control Milwaukee’s resources and future.

“These facts and more are why I stood with these protesters in saying ENOUGH IS ENOUGH! 25 million Americans are out of work, yet Congress can’t pass a jobs bill. Nothing is being asked of

wealthy Americans in this time of crisis, but budgets are being balanced on the backs of working people. We must change this NOW! The people I represent can't take it anymore.

“For those who just think I'm frustrated with lawmakers, let me be clear. This is a rally cry not only to our local, state, federal legislators to start creating jobs, but also to my own community. We must stop sitting back and watching our livelihoods go down the drain while the top 1% thrives. We, as leaders and as the community, must be accountable and committed to shifting this paradigm. We need not just reform in how we do things; we need a revolution. We have to walk like how we talk, boldly and courageously for social and economic freedom. Let's truly make this city work for everyone: for people of color, and for our children.

“I've said this before and I'll say it again. I stand with those who are ready for this revolution to take place now. Our rally sent a positive message for the people of Milwaukee. We disbanded peacefully, but I was fully prepared to be arrested if necessary for this cause. I won't stop fighting, speaking out and working until we wake up from our slumber and decide to change our city and our country. I don't care about the political fallout. I don't care what haters may think. We have to be bold in our actions if we truly want change. I was elected to be a voice and a champion for the people, and that has not and will not ever change. You cannot call yourself a leader and put your self-interests above the people or above the community.

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